2010 TORCH SPARKS JOINT COMPARISON, PG3

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Actress Walsh to host social forum

FILM This Hour has 22 Minutes comedian Mary Walsh is hosting a social forum, Act Now 4 Change, tonight as part of the film premiere of Poor No More.

With the current economic downturn, social agencies from across the country are gathering to find solutions on how to turn poverty into prosperity. Calgarians are invited to attend the film premiere tonight at 7 p.m. at the MacLeod Hall in the Telus Convention Centre.

Walsh will be at the premiere and also featured on film, guiding several struggling Canadians on a remarkable road trip that may change their lives.

METRO CALGARY

ROBIN KUNSKY/FOR METRO CALGARY

Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice, Justice Minister Alison Redford and Mayor Dave Bronconnier give the thumbs up to funding for a number of transit projects for Calgary Transit at the Victoria Park-Stampede C-Train Station yesterday.

$270M for transit

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

Calgary Transit will hit the accelerator on its capital projects after a major funding announcement yesterday.

Federal, provincial and municipal governments will join together in an equal partnership that will see $270 million go towards enhancing the C-Train system in Calgary.

"It really is bringing forward a number of identified projects to start making it easier for commuters to get around," said Mayor Dave Bronconnier, who came to Victoria Park Stampede Station for the announcement. Also present were federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice and provincial Justice Minister Alison Redford. Bronconnier said that the funding shows the federal government is recognizing and investing in public transit

"It links the Government of Canada's aspiration in terms of economic growth, job creation and environmental protection and the provincial government's desire to make sure we have viable options to commute because Calgary is a hub for the southern Alberta region," Bronconnier said.

One of the fast-tracked projects is the southeast Bus Rapid Transit service, which was slated to start within two years.

The $30-million project will go towards two Park and Ride lots in Douglasglen and McKenzie, new bus zones and larger bus shelters.

"This is not just building a park and ride," said Ron Collins, communications co-ordinator for Calgary Transit.

"This is putting the infrastructure we require along the line to accommodate BRT."

The new funding will also see $6 million put towards upgrading the closed-circuit-television security system, bringing the program years forward, said Collins.

Construction of most of the projects is expected to begin later this year. The West LRT Station project will start in 2010.

By the numbers...

How government funds for Calgary Transit will be allotted

- $80 million for rehabilitation of 7th Avenue
- $60 million for four-car LRT Station Platforms
- $30 million for the West LRT 11th Street Station
- $30 million for LRT traction Power Upgrades
- $30 million for South BRT Park and Ride Lots
- $17 million for Advanced Passenger Information System
- $10 million for Transit Priority Projects
- $7 million fro Electronic Fare Collection
- $6 million for upgrading LRT CCTV Security System

Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Calgary and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at calgaryletters@metronews.ca, metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrocalgary.

On metronews.ca

- **Share your SunnySide thoughts on Twitter using #sunnyside**
- **See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide**
- **Enter for a chance to win a Sony Blu-ray player**

Today

- **Word on the street, pg 5**

Coming to a phone near you: The new 587 area code

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Albertans might want to think twice before pressing ignore on that "587" number popping up on the call display.

It's not a telemarketer — it's just the new Alberta area code, and according to Telus spokesperson Chris Gerritsen, there are now thousands of them in the province.

"I think we as Albertans embrace change and I think this is just something we will have to get used to and it will eventually become second nature," he said of the new digits.

"I think we're starting to see more of the new area codes recently."

Gerritsen said most of the new numbers are being assigned to cellphone numbers because of the influx in new technology.

"Soon it will be as common as the '403' or the '780' area codes," Gerritsen added.

Calgarian Crystal Matthews, 26, is one of the first waves of people in the city to have the new area code assigned. She doesn't mind the new number, except most people think she is calling long distance.

"It seems like people actually avoid the calls until I finally get through, they realize it's me," she said.

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Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Calgary. 120, 3030 - 3 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta T2A 6T7. Publisher: Steve Shrout

4-H parade this weekend at Stampede Park
Hundreds of 4-H members from across the Calgary region are gathering at Stampede Park this weekend for the largest 4-H parade in Canada. Projects including horses, cattle, sheep, canine, rabbits, small engines and crafts will rule the park from Friday to Sunday. METRO CALGARY

Local

Not just singers in a rock 'n' roll band

Feeling a little Moody? Getting kind of Blue? Well on Aug. 1 spend the evening with the British classic, psychedelic rock band, The Moody Blues at the EPCOR Centre's Jack Singer Concert Hall. Tickets go on sale this Friday at 10 a.m. Prices: $75.00, $95.00 and $139.00.
METRO CALGARY

Officials confirm 17 new flu cases

HEALTH Officials say 17 new cases in Alberta of influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, have been confirmed over the long weekend, according to the Alberta Health and Wellness website.

Of the new cases, three were found in the Calgary area, 13 in Edmonton and one more in southern Alberta. The new cases bring the provincial total to 84. All but four of the cases were described as mild.

Sex offender allegedly violated peace bond

COURT A convicted sex offender is accused of leaving home without a mandatory GPS tracking device, violating his peace bond.

After being arrested earlier this month, Gregory James Venn is now asking for bail. However, due to the circumstances surrounding Venn's peace bond, the judge could delay a decision.

Venn's bail hearing will be held Friday. METRO CALGARY

News in brief

CONFERENCE The Canadian Winter Sport Institute announced a new initiative called the WinSport Canada Sponsorship Summit 2009, designed to help grow and support the business of sport. The conference will be held Sept. 23 to Sept. 25 at Canada Olympic Park. METRO CALGARY

Does Calgary pass your test?

SIOBHAN O'BEIRNE
for Metro Calgary

Calgary will be under the microscope of its own residents as an annual citizen survey is rolled out.

Calgary Vital Signs, as part of The Calgary Foundation, opens up the polls to any and all Calgarians to judge 12 aspects of the standard of living in Calgary.

"It's a survey that invites Calgarians to talk about and grade their quality of life in Calgary," said Kerry Longpré, vice-president, communications, for Vital Signs Calgary.

Some of the categories include learning, safety, sustainability and financial well-being.

According to Longpré, Vital Signs Calgary wants to know what Calgarians think is working in their city, what isn't working, what needs improvement, and how it can be done.

The end goal, Longpré said, is to start to impact some of the work of some of the agencies in the city, get them working towards improving Calgary's grade.

"Our intent is to have it serve as a catalyst to improve quality of life in Calgary."

Longpré says that Vital Signs is looking for the broadest range of citizens in order to get an accurate idea of what this city needs. "It's a community engagement activity."

Along with 18 other cities in Canada, the Calgary results of the survey will be distributed through city media on Oct. 6.

The five-minute survey can be completed online at calgaryvitalsigns.com until June 30 and is as simple as giving each category a letter grade ranging from A to F.

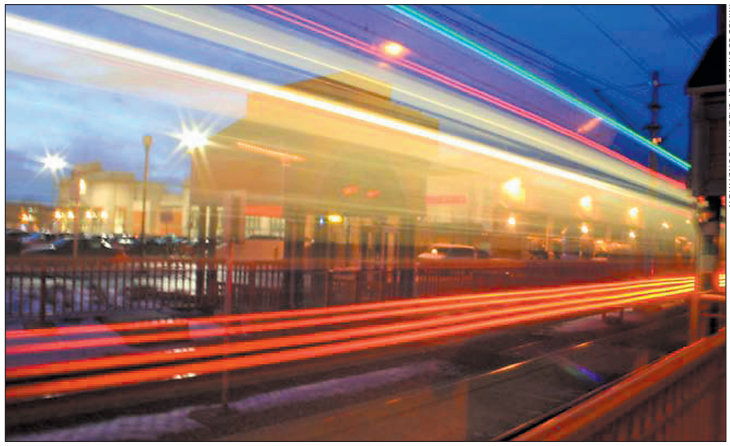

IMAGE COURTESY OF CALGARY FOUNDATION

The annual Vital Signs survey by The Calgary Foundation is asking Calgarians to participate in grading the city on 12 key areas ranging from housing to being a sustainable city.

City housing lift expected in 2010: Report

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Calgary's housing market is expected to rebound in 2010 after a dismal end to 2009, according to a report released by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. yesterday.

According to the CMHC's Spring 2009 Calgary Housing Market Outlook, the organization said total housing starts in 2009 have plummeted to just 3,700, down 7,700 units compared to a year ago, which is almost a 68 per cent decline.

"We had some optimism coming into the year but the economy downturned and we felt a lot of changes in the city," CHMC senior analyst Lai Sing Louie said. "People started losing jobs, and you really need that security before you make a commitment to buy a house."

But Louie said the good news comes in 2010, when the economic conditions improve and job creations will help form demand for housing.

"We expect near the end of the year for there to be some employment growth and people will start feeling more confident and spending more money," Louie added.

Louise said the rest of the province is following the same trend as Calgary and should also post a rebound in 2010.

Police quiet on city's latest homicide

INVESTIGATION Calgary Police are releasing few details after interviewing over 30 people during their investigation into the city's 14th homicide early Monday.

A man, believed to be 25 to 30 years old and deejaying during a domino tournament was allegedly stabbed while engaged in a physical altercation with a group who entered the establishment around 2:30 a.m. Monday, according to witness accounts.

Police say they have conducted an autopsy of the victim; however the next of kin have not yet been notified and the cause of death will not be released for investigative reasons.

Police believe there are others who were in attendance who may have more information. Anyone with information is asked to call 403-266-1234 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.
JOEL MESSNER/FOR METRO CALGARY

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What's online today.

Video Conference warns that overconsumption could lead to severe water shortage for Albertans at **metronews.ca/local**

Blogs It's Called Football welcomes CSL commissioner Cary Kaplan to discuss the league's expansion.

Therapy helps insomniacs more than meds: Study
Teaching insomniacs how to fall asleep through talk therapy produces better results than continued use of medications, according to a new Canadian study. REUTERS

3

Canada

Olympic toke?

2010 torch reminds many of marijuana joint

All hail — or inhale — the 2010 Olympic Torch.

Or, as it's jokingly known around Vancouver, the Olympic Toke.

Composed of stainless steel, aluminum and sheet moulding, the torch was designed to invoke snow, ice, skiing and skating, but to many, the metre-length white torch looks suspiciously like a marijuana joint, especially when lit.

The observation has become so common in that city that it's hard to know who was the first to say, "Hey, doesn't that look like..."

But that the torch bears a resemblance to Vancouver's biggest cash crop was evident right away to Jodie Emery, editor of Cannabis Culture magazine.

"A lot of people come to Vancouver because it's marijuana-friendly, so I think people who already enjoy a joint themselves will feel a little more kinship to the Olympics," said Emery, who ran this month as a Green party candidate in the provincial election.

"I'm sure the organizers didn't intend for it to look like a joint but that's what a lot of people are seeing."

The association between toking and the Olympics didn't begin with the torch, of course.

At the 1998 Games in Nagano, Japan, Whistler skier Ross Rebagliati won, then lost the gold medal in snowboarding after testing positive for marijuana. The medal was returned after Rebagliati explained he had inhaled second-hand smoke. And Olympic swimming sensation Michael Phelps was photographed in February with a bong.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FILE PHOTO

To many, the Olympic Torch looks like a marijuana joint, prompting the observation to become common among Vancouverites.

Halifax **One hard party**

Mario, a tenant at a townhouse in Halifax who didn't want his last name used, talks with Metro yesterday about a weekend party that got out of control. Some 200 or more partygoers started tearing down the drywall. When the hosts tried to shut it down, they claim they were attacked. The damages are estimated at about a few thousand dollars.

News in brief

ENERGY The federal government announced details yesterday of the $1-billion clean energy fund it promised in February, with the lion's share of the cash going to support the development of carbon capture and storage projects. REUTERS

OLIPHANT Former prime minister Brian Mulroney admitted yesterday he did not want author William Kaplan to go public with information that he had a business relationship with Karlheinz Schreiber. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Nations, firms tackle isotope issue

SHUTDOWN Energy authorities have closed a nuclear reactor that produces a third of the world's medical isotopes after a small leak and warned that there could be a shortage of isotopes by as early as Saturday.

Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. said it shut down the 50-year-old reactor at Chalk River, Ont., late last week after it discovered a small leak of heavy water, used as part of the nuclear reaction process.

It expects the reactor to remain out of operation for more than a month.

Meantime, major isotope-producing countries and companies are working to address a possible supply shortage, Ottawa said.

"A secure supply of medical isotopes is not only an issue for Canada, it is an international issue that is being addressed co-operatively by all isotope-producing countries," Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt said. REUTERS

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The love plane

Air New Zealand is launching what it calls the world's first matchmaking flight, an overnight trip from Los Angeles to Auckland, New Zealand. For a round-trip ticket starting at $780 US, singles can mingle at a party before boarding a 13-hour flight, where food, drink and entertainment awaits. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

World

Ancient primate fossil unveiled

Scientists yesterday unveiled fossilized remains, left, of one of the oldest skeletons of an early primate, a finding they say could further our understanding of how our ancestors may have appeared. The now-extinct primate lived some 47 million years ago and was found south of Frankfurt, Germany. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Sri Lanka confirms rebel leader dead

SRI LANKA Sri Lanka's military said yesterday Tamil Tiger rebel leader Vellupillai Prabhakaran's body had been found, and President Mahinda Rajapaksa urged Tamils to join in rebuilding a nation split by a 25-year separatist war.

Footage broadcast on Sri Lankan TV showed what appeared to be the corpse of the man who plunged the Indian Ocean island nation into one of the world's most intractable wars, his eyes open, face bloated and the top of his head blown off.

The military declared total victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) after a climactic gunbattle on Monday, putting Sri Lanka completely back under government rule for the first time since the war erupted in 1983. **REUTERS**

Obama sets new efficiency standards

U.S. President Barack Obama took aim at climate-warming greenhouse gases yesterday and ordered the struggling auto industry to make more fuel-efficient cars under tough new national standards to cut emissions and increase gas mileage.

KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

U.S. President Barack Obama puts his arm around California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger after announcing new standards for automobile fuel economy and emissions.

Obama said the national standards, announced at a White House ceremony attended by auto industry and union leaders, would reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil and give five years of cost certainty to an industry battling to survive.

Under the new vehicle standards, U.S. passenger vehicles must average 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016. Obama said that would save 1.8 billion barrels of oil over the lifetime of the program. The plan resolves a long-running dispute between the government and California, which sought a waiver from federal law to impose its own tough standards on emissions. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger attended the announcement and told reporters the weekend negotiations on the plan were "very intense." **REUTERS**

Fears arise that flu strain could become resistant

FLU Influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, is now widespread, causing a range of illness, and U.S. health officials say they fear it could mix with drug-resistant versions of seasonal flu.

This year its cousin, a seasonal H1N1 strain, became mostly resistant to the most commonly used antiviral — Tamiflu.

Relenza, an inhaled drug, still works. The CDC said more seasonal flu viruses were making people sick than would normally be expected for May, and the reasons were not clear. **REUTERS**

News in brief

TEEN SEX British schoolboy Alfie Patten, who made headlines earlier this year when it was reported he had gotten his girlfriend pregnant when aged 12, is not the baby's father after all, a newspaper reported yesterday. In February, media said Patten's 15-year-old girlfriend had become pregnant, but after the story was reported, other boys came forward to say they had had sex with the mother. DNA tests have now revealed that the father is a 14-year-old schoolboy.

PLANE CRASH At least 78 people died in the crash of an Indonesian military transport plane in East Java last night, a military spokesman said. The plane was carrying 11 crew and about 99 passengers when it crashed and burst into flames, an air force official said. At least two people were killed on the ground. **REUTERS**

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Comment & Views

Comment

Whack a seal, it's our right

Defending our annual stupidity celebration

TheWestView

As the beer commercial goes: I am Canadian.

And as such, I suppose, it's my patriotic duty to defend our annual celebration of stupidity, the Atlantic seal hunt.

OK, here goes.

The first thing you should know is that this so-called annual slaughter targets only a tiny percentage of the 5.5 million harp seal population, just a quarter of a million of the cutest and most defenceless.

Keep in mind as well that sealers can no longer target "babies." Now they have to wait until the seals are "mature:" 12-15 days old and beginning to moult. This corresponds with the time the baby seals are abandoned by their mothers. "Hi kid. Abandoned by your mom? Welcome to the real world. Whack!"

I must, on behalf of the 6,000 sealers who make their livings whacking baby seals, protest the European Union's ban on seal pelts, passed May 5. Obviously, because the Europeans kill animals (and what about those bull fights, eh? Eh?), they have no right to get all self-righteous about the seal hunt. Don't they realize the hunt is strictly regulated and humane?

At least as humane as it can be, considering it apparently requires the use of something called a "hakapik," which looks exactly as it sounds, and that the "mature" seal has absolutely no means of escape, except to close its big, impossibly adorable eyes, and wonder what happened to mom.

"Obviously, because the Europeans kill animals they have no right to get all self-righteous about the seal hunt."

And those European dilettantes should respect the grand tradition that accompanies the whacking of baby seals.

Our Inuit friends have been whacking same since before recorded history and our noble maritime fisher guys have been at it for more than 400 years.

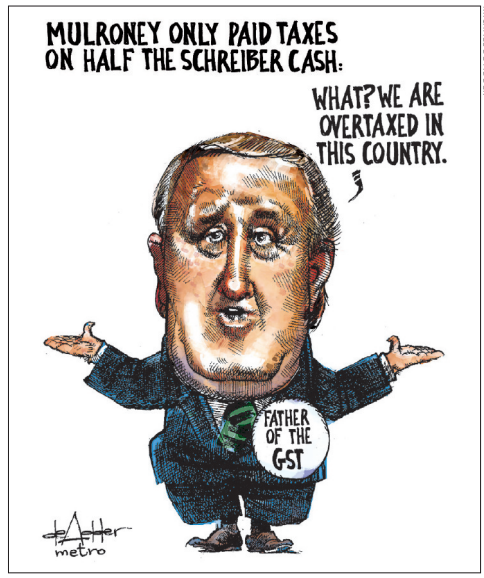
And surely that is one of the great lessons of history: The longer a brutal, pointless practice endures, the less pointless it becomes, but I'm not sure I want to go there just now.

Let's remember the annual seal whackathon brings 30 million badly needed dollars to the Atlantic economy. When you consider that $30 million about covers the cost of the commodes at the new $1-billion Vancouver convention centre, you have some idea of the epic scale we're dealing with here. Of course, we could just give the Newfoundland sealers 30 million bucks and a gift coupon for Tim Hortons and tell them to stay home, but where's the dignity?

Who are we — effete, urban snobs who eat veal probably — to tell the noble sealers to forgo their storied traditions and stop whacking and hakapiking baby, er, mature seals to death?

We simply don't understand, do we?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Online Chatter

The sunnyside of life shines on the web

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

The people are friendly and interesting. The bars aren't too shabby either. And the water, can't beat it.

Tweet by @BradFraser @metrocalgary

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

My favourite thing about Ottawa is how clean and family oriented it is.

Tweet by @kevinrbourne @metroottawa

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

Parliament Hill. The sight of it never gets boring.

Tweet by @ReelRoula @metroottawa

Re: What makes you smile?

Tulips blooming makes me smile.

Tweet by @smileycdngerl @metrotoronto

Follow Metro on Twitter for news updates and more: @metrocalgary

Re: What's your favourite spot in your city?

The forest trails in High Park and the distillery.

Tweet by @giddyupsales @metrotoronto

Kudos to @metrotoronto, Metronews.ca, for focussing on the bright side of life in Canada in today's news vs the gloom you see in most papers.

Tweet by @loftsellers @metrotoronto

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

The people and our spirit!

Tweet by @DebraWard @metroedmonton

What's your favourite thing about your city? Let us know! #sunnyside (fave thing about your city)

Word on the street: Where is your favourite spot in the city to people watch and why?

A.J. Kovar
age 18, Calgary

A: Downtown. There are lots of different people.

Alexandra Lyeptova
age 28, Calgary

A: Glenmore Park. It's so beautiful there.

Spencer Lippitt
age 24, Calgary

A: Stephen Avenue Mall. There are lots of people. I work close to there.

Sharon Edwards
age 32, Calgary

A: TD Square. It's very busy, lots of interesting people.

Krystal Tarasoff
age 21, Calgary

A: The shopping mall. I like it during Christmastime because you get to see how rushed everybody is.

John Carter
age 43, Calgary

A: Stephen Avenue Mall. It's where people seem to be wandering about.

Quote of the Day

"We are not dealing with our grand- grand- grand- grandmother, but perhaps our grand- grand- grand- aunt."

— Jen Franzen of the Senckenberg Research Institute in Frankfurt at New York's American Museum of Natural History yesterday. She was commenting on the unveiling of well-preserved fossilized remains of a primate from 47 million years ago that may have been a close relative of monkeys, apes and humans. REUTERS

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Chinese wedding fever heats platinum market

An auspicious year for weddings in China is expected to add fuel to an already robust market for platinum jewelry, helping to offset dire industrial demand, a leading industry official said yesterday. REUTERS

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Future of web queries?

It's not a Google-killer — in fact, it's not even a search engine — but WolframAlpha and its concept of "computational knowledge" is already raising eyebrows by suggesting what the future of Internet queries might look like.

Tech buffs have had a few days to play with WolframAlpha since it went live for testing last weekend amid significant buzz. Now open to the public, the free web service promises to eventually make "all systematic knowledge immediately computable by anyone."

WolframAlpha has a home page that resembles Google's, complete with a prominent query box. But instead of trolling billions of web pages for pertinent information and then leaving it up to the user to decide what is most useful, WolframAlpha attempts to answer a given query by mining its vast databases.

The early reviews are mixed, with some marvelling at its ability to answer questions of a human nature — How far is it from Vancouver to Halifax? — and others wondering whether it's just as easy to turn to existing web resources.

"It certainly points us toward a future where search looks very different than it does today," said Carmi Levy, senior vice-president of strategic consulting for AR Communications Inc.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Creator

- WolframAlpha's creator, Stephen Wolfram, has been described as a physics prodigy. He wrote his first scientific paper at 15 and received his PhD in theoretical physics from Caltech by age 20.

Business in brief

BANKRUPTCIES Business bankruptcies in Canada dropped unexpectedly in the first quarter, in contrast with a sharp rise seen during previous Canadian recessions, a report released yesterday said. Business bankruptcies fell no less than 14 per cent during the first three months of 2009, compared with the same period in 2008. REUTERS

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Steeler to skip White House

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison will skip the Super Bowl champions' White House visit with President Barack Obama tomorrow. Harrison will bypass the traditional ceremony, just as he did when the Steelers were honoured by President George W. Bush at the White House in June 2006. METRO NEWS SERVICES

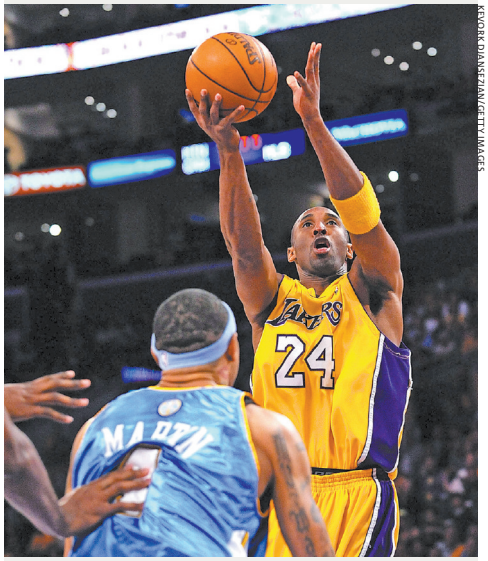
Sports

Julien honoured

Boston Bruins head coach Claude Julien has been named NHL Coach of the Year by the Sporting News. Julien led Boston to the top of the Eastern Conference standings this season, posting a record of 53-19-10 while racking up 116 points in just his second season in Beantown. The Sporting News chose Julien after compiling votes by 39 coaches and executives from throughout the league. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

NBA Kobe drives to K-Mart



KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers goes up for a shot over Kenyon (K-Mart) Martin of the Denver Nuggets last night during Game 1 of the Western Conference final. The Lakers won 105-103. For a complete game recap, visit metronews.ca/sports.

Wings clip Hawks in OT

Stanley Cup
2009 Playoffs

(Detroit leads series 2-0)

Chicago 2 Detroit 3 (OT)

Mikael Samuelsson's goal 5:14 into overtime sent the Detroit Red Wings to a 3-2 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks in Game 2 of their Western Conference final from Joe Louis Arena.

DAVE SANDFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Chicago's Ben Eager, right, checks Detroit's Niklas Kronwall into the boards last night during Game 2 of the Western Conference final. Detroit won the game 3-2 in overtime.

Samuelsson started a rush off a giveaway by Hawks defenceman Brian Campbell, pushing the puck ahead through the neutral zone to Jiri Hudler. It quickly became a 3-on-1 as Valteri Filppula joined on the right wing. Hudler dished to Filppula, who turned and fed back to Samuelsson for a bullet one-timer inside the left post.

Dan Cleary and Brian Rafalski also tallied for the Red Wings, who assumed a two-games-to-none series advantage.

Chris Osgood made 37 saves for his 10th win of this postseason.

Jonathan Toews posted both goals for the Blackhawks, who look for their first win in the series in Game 3 on Friday at United Center.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mediation ordered for NHL, Coyotes

COYOTES If the bankruptcy of the Phoenix Coyotes were a hockey game, it would be the end of the first period and the score would be tied 1-1.

Both the NHL and its opponents — the legal teams for Coyotes owner Jerry Moyes and Canadian Jim Balsillie — scored a couple of points and came away with a few bruises in a day of momentum swings.

All sides came away with reason to be optimistic their side would prevail after Judge Redfield Baum effectively neutralized the issue of control by ordering mediation.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS
Boston 2 Toronto 1
Detroit 4 Texas 0
N.Y. Yankees 9 Baltimore 1
Oakland 4 Tampa Bay 1
Kansas City 6 Cleveland 5
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox
L.A. Angels at Seattle

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS
Atlanta 8 Colorado 1
Pittsburgh 8 Washington 5
Arizona 5 Florida 3
Philadelphia 4 Cincinnati 3
Milwaukee at Houston
St. Louis 3 Chicago Cubs 0
San Francisco at San Diego
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Dodgers

TODAY'S AL GAMES
Toronto at Boston
Texas at Detroit
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees
Oakland at Tampa Bay
Cleveland at Kansas City
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox
L.A. Angels at Seattle

TODAY'S NL GAMES
Pittsburgh at Washington
Colorado at Atlanta
Arizona at Florida (Gm 1)
Arizona at Florida (Gm 2)
Philadelphia at Cincinnati
Milwaukee at Houston
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis
San Francisco at San Diego
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Dodgers

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit 3 Chicago 2 (OT)

THURSDAY'S GAME
Carolina at Pittsburgh

FRIDAY'S GAME
Detroit at Chicago

SATURDAY'S GAME
Pittsburgh at Carolina

NBA

YESTERDAY'S GAME
L.A. Lakers 105 Denver 103

TODAY'S GAMES
Orlando at Cleveland

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Briere gets eyes fixed
Philadelphia Flyers centre Danny Briere had successful corrective eye surgery yesterday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Law helps Canadians

U.S. equality legislation aids female athletes, even from abroad

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Canada

"To be able to give the women's programs the same as the men's ... it's a great concept."
Carla MacLeod, hockey player

Canadian female athletes can still benefit from a law enacted in the United States way back in 1972.

Known as Title IX, the landmark legislation banned sex discrimination in schools, whether it be in academics or athletics.

The legislation helped to open up doors for female athletes to receive equal amounts of scholarship dollars as their male counterparts.

"It's a great way to develop women's sports," said Calgarian Carla MacLeod, who attended the University of Wisconsin on an athletic scholarship from 2001-05.

A veteran member of Canada's National Women's Hockey Team, MacLeod enjoyed getting an opportunity to play for the Wisconsin Badgers while attending school.

"To be able to give the women's programs the same as the men's programs and treat everyone equal, it's a great concept," she said.

Fellow National Women's Team defender Tessa Bonhomme also appreciated the opportunity to play hockey south of the border after graduating from high school in her native Sudbury.

Following four years of playing for the Ohio State Buckeyes from 2003-08, Bonhomme encouraged other young female athletes to also pursue their dreams.

"Don't pass up the opportunity," Bonhomme said. "If you go, you can always come back if you don't like it, but if you never go, you won't know what you're missing out on."

After two years of playing soccer for the University of Calgary Dinos in the late 1990s, Chrissy Nelson was looking for a change of scenery.

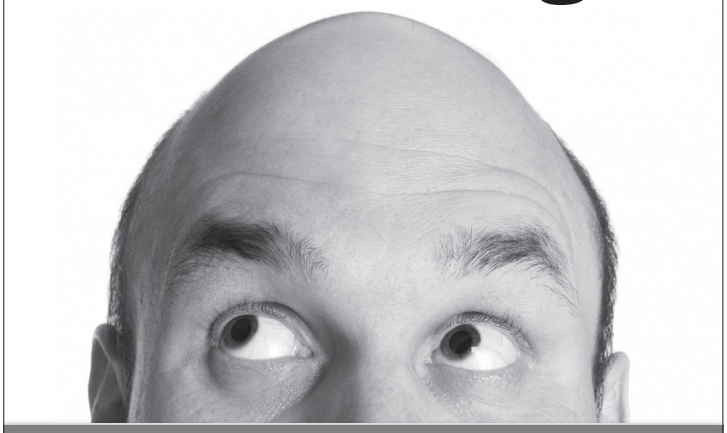
"I just kind of jokingly asked a teammate who had come back from the States if she knew of anyone who was looking, so she gave me a number and an email of a coach," said Nelson, who wound up earning an athletic scholarship at Idaho State University to play for the Bengals. "What attracted me was that they were looking for a goalkeeper and I wanted to go somewhere else. I wanted to try something new."

If it wasn't for Title IX, Joan Lettman would have never attended Murray State University and run track for the Racers.

"A lot of people don't know that there are these scholarships out there," said Lettman, noting that it was quite an adjustment moving from Toronto in 2004 to the small college town of Murray, Ken., but that she's glad she did it. "That opportunity will always be there (for others)."

SILVER SKY court

Missing something?



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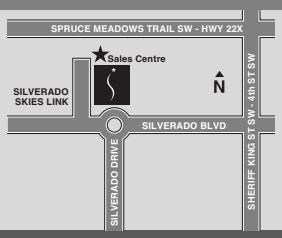

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The plane to Spain
Air Canada and fellow Star Alliance partner Spanair announced yesterday they have entered a codeshare agreement that expands their networks between popular destinations in Canada and Spain. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Booming business

A new survey by Destination Weddings & Honeymoons magazine forecasts that — despite the recession — the market for such weddings will grow to $16 billion US this year from $13 billion in 2008, extending a winning streak that has seen the market boom from just $3 billion in 2001. REUTERS

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Where to be seen in Miami

Check out these hip new South Beach bars

TheTravelJunkie
Julia Dimon
metronews.ca/traveljunkie

Strolling along palm-tree lined Ocean Drive, against a backdrop of pastel-coloured Art Deco buildings, I feel like I'm part of a postcard.

This is South Beach, a celebrity playground of restaurants, bars, salsa clubs and Miami vices; home to luxury lifestyles, reality-TV tattoo shops and the world famous diet. Dubbed America's Riviera and the Latin Hollywood, Miami draws a wide range of tourist types, from snowbirds to university students and sun-worshippers to trendsetters.

For those looking to party, South Beach is the place to be, with what seems like an endless supply of bars to choose from. If you want to party like a rock star but feel overwhelmed by all the options, here are a few places to start:

Gansevoort South Hotel:
The Gansevoort South, a hip hotel on Collins Avenue, is a favourite among Miami's beautiful people. Walk past the lobby's 50-foot-long shark tank and take the elevator to Plunge, a poolside lounge overlooking the ocean, the city and a tree-fringed infinity pool. From there, check out Louis, a vampish Versailles-themed VIP lounge; gansevoortsouth.com.

Skybar at Shore Club
Enjoy the perfect weather at Redroom garden, a chill landscaped patio of tropical plants and eclectic Moroccan-themed design. Sauntering around this communal space, you can wander from Rumbar, which serves up 75 different kinds of rum, into Redroom, where you can dance the night away to hip hop and Top 40; shoreclub.com.

W South Beach Hotel
When in doubt, you can't go wrong with W. With slick architecture, high design and a pulse on what's cool, the new W South Beach Hotel (set to open June 16) is a sure bet.

The Wall nightclub, an ultra lounge open as late as 4 a.m. Fridays to Mondays, boasts specialty drinks and gold-and-black decor; star woodhotels.com.

Casa Casuarina
Sip cocktails at Casa Casuarina, the infamous residence of the late Italian fashion designer Gianni Versace. In this historic-house-turned-celebrity-compound, Versace hosted stars such as Madonna and Elton John until his untimely death in July of 1997, when he was murdered on the steps of this beach-front villa.

Once a private members-only club, this 1930s landmark now welcomes tourists for dinner, cocktails and tours (offered daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at $65 US per person); casacasuarina.com.

SHORE CLUB
The Skybar at the Shore Club Miami.

Mynt Lounge
With a tight door policy and a long list of celebrity guests, Mynt is at the top of many trendsetters' lists. It's not easy to get into, but once beyond the velvet rope, partiers will find A-list fashionistas dancing to the beat of international DJs and breathing in the club's aromatherapy-scented air. This is a place where you must dress to impress; myntlounge.com.

VIP help
If you don't want to battle lineups or doormen, SoBeVIPs, a nightlife company aimed at taking the hassle out of South Beach partying, can hook you up with club access. They offer limo transportation, VIP bottle service and party passes (a package that includes cover charge, a drink and line-up free entry before 12:30 a.m.); sobevips.com.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

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RVs roll on
Though U.S. motorhome manufacturers have seen demand evaporate as a result of the current economic downturn and credit crunch, analysts are upbeat about the sector, arguing that the market for motorhomes will come back. REUTERS

The wide world of garden tours

If you're into horticulture, here's your travel to-do list

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

Green is chic — why not spend your holiday paying homage to the great outdoors with a garden-themed trip?

JAPANESE NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION

Above left, a display at the Waterlily House at London's Kew Gardens. Above right, a Zen garden at Japan's Ryoanji Temple.

British Flower Shows

The British are obsessed with their gardens. The highpoints of the British garden lover's year are the RHS flower shows. The most famous of these is the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show at the end of May, where top garden designers compete for the finest show garden and the latest gardening trends are set.

However the insider's choice is the Hampton Court Palace Flower show in July — it's bigger and less crowded. There's an inspiring range of displays from small gardens to front yards, family-friendly planting, extravagant conceptual designs, vegetable patches and how to make your garden sustainable, (rhs.org.uk) If trekking round the shows hasn't satiated your needs for horticultural inspiration, then pay a visit to the famous 250-year-old botanical gardens at Kew, in London.

These stunning grounds are home to a palace, themed gardens, a tree top walkway, and impressive plant collections housed in extravagant greenhouses, kew.org.

Bulbs in Benelux

Holland is lifted by a riot of colour when spring arrives and the country's trademark flower — the tulip — starts to bloom. The best place to enjoy these bold flowers is at Keukenhof, the world's largest flower garden where they are laid out in vast multi-coloured carpets. Established 60 years ago as an exhibition at which growers from the flower bulb industry could present their latest flowers, it's now a sort of fabulous floral theme park.

Every year seven million flower bulbs in 1,600 different varieties supplied by 93 different exhibitors are planted throughout this 32 hectare estate. You can admire the configurations of different colours and shapes of bulb, and of course buy some to take home afterwards. Until May 21, keukenhof.nl.

Zen gardens of Japan

You might have missed the spring cherry blossom in Tokyo, but there are plenty more opportunities to enjoy the flora of Japan. Far from the fussy, flowery gardens of Europe and the U.S., these gardens found in the grounds of Buddhist temples, historic castles and private homes, are carefully-constructed minimalist havens, with gravel paths, sparse planting, artfully-placed rocks, pavilions, bridges, tranquil ponds and relaxing water features.

Read more on page11 ››

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Bowing out of the Bahamas

A five-star, Four Seasons resort in the Bahamas will close its doors this month after it was put into receivership nearly two years ago due to mounting financial losses. The Four Seasons Resort Great Exuma is to close May 26 and is no longer accepting reservations. REUTERS

JAPANESE NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION

Above left, a view of the garden at Saiho-ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan. Above right, the Palm House at Kew Gardens is a massive Victorian glass structure containing a world-class collection.

>> Continued from page 10

Some gardens are religious, others ceremonial, artistic or designed for strolling through. Kyoto is awash with splendid examples, including those in the grounds of the city's 13 World Heritage Sites, including the gardens at Nijo Castle Ninomaru, Tenryu-ji Temple, Kiyomizu-dera Temple, the beautiful moss garden of Saiho-ji Temple, and the rock garden at Kinkaku-ji Temple, where nature is represented by stones and gravel swept into simple patterns with a broom; jnto.go.jp.

Biodiversity in Costa Rica

Flora and fauna fans will be overwhelmed by the diversity that Costa Rica has to offer. This tiny country in Central America country covers only 0.1 per cent of the world's landmass, but is home to five per cent of global biodiversity.

Almost a quarter of the country is made up of national parks, protected by the environmentally-conscious government. These tropical paradises are home to a bounty of more than 100,000 exotic and colourful plant species, alongside thousands of types of animals and birds.

Highlights include the botanical gardens of the Centro Neotropico SarapiquiS Gardens, the Arenal Botanical Gardens, the Elsie Kientzler Botanical Garden, the botanical gardens of CATIE, the aerial tour of the Braulio Carrillo National Park, the La Paz Waterfall Gardens which is full of butterflies and hummingbirds and the Lankester Botanical Gardens in San Jose, home to more than a thousand varieties of orchid; visit costarica.com.

Tropical gardens in Madeira

There's more to this Portuguese island in the middle of the Atlantic than the sweet wine. Madeira is known for its exotic flora and a visit will not disappoint garden fans — the tropical climate and the volcanic soil create perfect conditions for growing all manner of exotic plants from gardenias and freesias to hibiscus, agapanthus, mimosa, bougainvillea and orchids.

All of these flowers are on show in the wealth of well-tended gardens including the Botanical Gardens, the Tropical Gardens of Monte Palace with its collection of cycads, the Garden of Quinta da Boa Vista, with its collection of orchids, as well as private gardens like Quinta Palmeira and Quinta do Palheiro, famous for its camelias.

Another great way to discover the spectacular scenery is to take a walk along the levadas, a series of water channels created to bring water from the highlands to the lower parts of the island; madeiratourism.org.

VIVEK PRAKASH/REUTERS

People take part in a yoga class on a capsule of the Singapore Flyer observation wheel in Singapore on April 18. The Yoga In the Sky session was held as part of Yogamania 2009.

Get away from it all

Yoga retreats appealing in tough times

When the going gets tough, the tough get centred, preferably in paradise.

Retailers may be shutting their doors, banks may be taking stress tests, but yoga retreats are surprisingly popular now even, or especially, among the unemployed, the soon-to-be unemployed, and the fearing-to-be unemployed.

"Several people I've spoken to in the last few weeks have said, 'You know, I just lost my job and I really shouldn't be doing this, but I need this retreat so-o-o badly,'" Wesleigh Roeca, who runs the retreat program at YogaWorks, said in an interview.

"We were in Ojai, California, in March, and we're going to Hawaii in June," said Roeca of the approximately week-long getaways conducted by the California-based national chain. She also had a sold-out retreat planned for Mexico this week, but was forced to cancel it due to H1N1, or swine flu.

"Just about all of our retreats sell out," she explained. "It's a healing vacation. And in times of economic uncertainty, healing vacations offer people rejuvenation." Another plus, according to Roeca, is that the retreats are typically all-inclusive — one price that includes accommodations, meals, days filled with yoga, and even some excursions. "A lot of bang for your buck!" she said.

"People these days seem uncomfortable, even guilty, about just sitting on a beach ... We teach the art and science of yoga to help people find health and balance."
Cathy Husid-Shamir

At Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, located in the Berkshires town of Stockbridge, Mass., spokesperson Cathy Husid-Shamir agrees that uncertain times have shifted vacation priorities.

"People these days seem uncomfortable, even guilty, about just sitting on a beach," she said. "At our retreat centre we teach the art and science of yoga to help people find health and balance. It's a learning vacation in an environment that supports it."

Kripalu (the name means "grace") also offers courses on topics like stress management, health challenges, insomnia, and weight loss, as well as saunas, hiking trails, horseback riding and other activities.

As a nod to the times, Kripalu teachers have organized a tuition-free program for people who recently lost their jobs, even as the retreat prepares to open an 80-room expansion annex in June. "People want to go somewhere where we can truly get away from it all," explained Husid-Shamir.

Nevertheless, Kripalu's policy of no alcohol on the menus, no television in the rooms, and a cuisine "heavy on plant base, with limited seafood and chicken," might deter the more epicurean yogi.

For Billy Asad, a self-described "adventurer-retreat guy," who has been organizing corporate and studio yoga getaways for 10 years, enjoyment trumps asceticism every time. "Go have a glass of wine! Go have a steak! It's okay!" he said from Los Angeles.

"I try to keep my retreats very balanced. And I like to have them in three-, four-, five-star hotels."

Asad typically combines yoga with surfing, hiking and camping adventures in faraway places like Mexico, Australia, and Bali.

He agrees these are boon times for the all-inclusive vacation.

"I book the hotel, I do everything. This idea of 'I don't want to think beyond booking my trip' is becoming more mainstream."

People return from the holidays, he said, relaxed and in a better place.

"With the economy fears, more people are turning towards wellness," he said. "What do you do when you're in fear? Either you accept the change or you fight it." REUTERS

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Volvo's free game
Volvo will release a free racing game developed with Swedish video game specialists SimBin. Users can virtually pilot the Volvo S60 concept or five Volvo racing legends in the game. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Costliest bid
A 1957 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa has set a new world record for the most expensive car ever sold at auction, costing the buyer $12.15 million US, according to RM Auctions, which organized the event Sunday in Maranello, Italy. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

TSX opens door to luxury

Acura model keeps sporty feel despite many refinements

ROB BEINTEMA
for Metro Canada

Who says it can't be fixed if it ain't broke?

When the new 2009 Acura TSX debuted, it delivered on the promise of a bigger and better TSX. In fact, when the original TSX was unveiled in 2003, I remember Acura making much of the fact that the car was based on the European Accord platform, not Honda's domestic version.

The European version of the Accord was smaller, lighter and tighter, with a platform tuned for the sporty character, taut suspension and handling engendered by the narrower, twisty roads of the Old World.

So designers had to be careful not to mess with the TSX's persona and strategic positioning within the lineup, while still trying to make the second-generation car roomier, more agile and more responsive.

2009 Acura TSX

Type: Entry-level luxury sedan
Price: from $37,650
Engine: 2.4-litre DOHC i-VTEC 4-cylinder engine (201 hp / 172 lb-ft)
Fuel economy: 9.6/6.5/8.2L/100km (city/hwy/combined)

Highlights

- High-quality looks
- Loaded with features

The new 2009 Acura TSX.

The 2009 TSX evolution starts with a wider, more aggressive stance. Overall bodywidth has increased 78 mm and the track dimensions are 65 mm wider than the outgoing model. The TSX has also been stretched in the other direction, riding on a 35 mm longer wheelbase and the car itself is 66 mm longer. That translates into a larger platform with smoother, more planted handling feel along with a corresponding increase in exterior dimensions and interior space.

Fuel economy is rated at 9.6/6.5/8.2L/100 km (city/hwy/comb), in the automatic, as tested. Two transmissions are available, a standard six-speed close-ratio manual with new (more performance oriented) ratios for second through sixth gears or a Sequential SportShift five-speed automatic.

Any Acura comes well loaded but bumping the TSX up to Premium adds leather seats, XM Satellite Radio, USB connector, front fog lights, automatic headlight activation, High Intensity Discharge low-beam headlights and a two-position driver memory seat.

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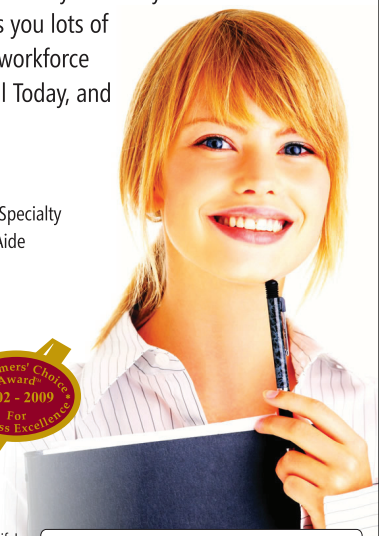

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Bill clears a hurdle
The "Right to Repair" bill, which will require automakers to make information, software and tools available to independent repair shops, is inching closer to legislation. Bill C-273, introduced by New Democrat Brian Masse passed the second reading vote in the House of Commons last week. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Scion's iQ aims high with trendsetters

The centre of attention. With a futuristic shape designed for urban trendsetters, the iQ micro-subcompact, Scion's latest concept, debuted at the recent New York International Auto Show.

Scion unveiled a special concept version of the iQ micro-subcompact car designed to meet the transportation needs of young urban trendsetters.

It was shown at the recent New York Auto Show.

Scion's iQ concept is a new urban vehicle with a revolutionary package that is just over 10 feet in length and accommodates three plus luggage.

As more and more urban centers are revitalized with a new sense of purpose, energy, and creativity, young people are moving in from the suburbs to embrace new urbanism and are looking for a car that suits their needs and delivers high emotional value.

The production iQ is currently sold in Japan and Europe. Five Axis of Huntington Beach, Calif. took the iQ to the next level with aggressive exterior and interior modifications that show the vehicle's potential for personalization.

With its 78.7-inch wheelbase, the three-door hatchback can deftly maneuver through city traffic. At the same time, its overall length of 126.9-inches, overall width of 71.4-inches, and short front and rear overhangs allow the iQ to fit in virtually any city parking space.

"When not in use, the screen emits a colourful display of light patterns to make the interior even more unique."

The front-mounted differential and repositioned steering rack decrease front-end length. In addition, the iQ is equipped with a flat gas tank housed beneath the floor that reduces rear overhang.

Pushing the wheels of the small, bold concept towards the four corners of the body gives the iQ a confident stance. The custom 18-inch wheels with a nickel finish and wide tires fill the wheel well, adding to its surefootedness.

The iQ's custom front air dam, aero headlamps and high-intensity LED driving lamps signal urban road readiness.

The iQ features a 10-inch panel LCD screen on top of the center cluster that serves as the main entertainment console and navigation system interface.

With the push of a button, the touch-screen articulates to reveal the entertainment hub. The touch screen can also play movies while the vehicle is parked. When not in use, the screen lays flat on the dash with a translucent cover that emits a colourful display of light patterns to make the interior even more unique. FROM CARGUIDE

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Hyundai an onlline hit: Report
Hyundai ranks highest among auto manufacturer websites in satisfying Canadian new-vehicle shoppers, according to a recent J.D. Power and Associates study. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Competent Borrego

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Given the length of time it takes to develop a vehicle, automakers can find circumstances have changed considerably from the drawing board to the showroom. That's probably the case with the Kia Borrego, which isn't helped by being released into the current economic crisis.

It's not that there's a lot wrong with it, but that it doesn't really outshine the competitors in a rapidly-dwindling segment. It's another competent SUV in a pool of competent mid- to full-size SUVs.

This body-on-frame, seven-passenger model offers Kia's first V8 in North America, a 4.6-litre that's a version of the Hyundai Genesis' power plant. But my tester was the 3.8-litre V6, which starts at $36,995, making it $2,500 less than the V8.

My ride was the upper-line EX, at $40,995, which brings extra features and a specific 4WD system. The base LX is a part-time system, running primarily in rear-wheel, with the 4x4 system strictly for loose or slippery surfaces. The EX uses a full-time, all-wheel system that can be used on any road, and also locked into high or low if necessary for extra traction.

The 2009 Kia Borrego aims to take its place in the tough SUV segment and one thing that may be going for it is the improved interior, which features quality materials and comfortable seating.

The platform is unique, not just a larger version of the Sorento, with independent rear suspension. In V6 configuration, it puts out 276 horsepower and 267 lb/ft of torque, and comes solely with a five-speed automatic transmission (the V8 uses a six-speed automatic).

The V6 will tow up to 5,000 lbs, the V8 up to 7,500. Published fuel figures for the V6 are 13.0 L/100 km in the city and 9.4 on the highway; in combined driving, I averaged 15.2 L/100 km (19 mpg).

The base LX contains the usual round-up of amenities: A/C, heated seats and mirrors, trailer hitch, satellite radio, cruise control, side and curtain airbags (but not the V8's driver knee airbag), electronic stability control, hill assist and downhill brake control. Moving up to the EX adds 18-inch wheels, power-adjustable leather seats, automatic climate control, auto-dimming rear mirror, power-adjustable steering wheel, and side steps.

The front seats are roomy, and the third-row seats have more legroom than expected, but with hard, flat cushions.

The V6 works so well that I'd question moving up to the V8 unless you're planning heavy-duty towing. Handling is fine, but the suspension is very truck-like. On smooth roads, Borrego just feels rugged, but the least bit of broken pavement sends every smack and wallop into the cabin.

Inside, there's little to fault for the price: Quality materials, good panel fit, comfortable seating and good visibility. Kia has been improving its interiors over the last few new models, and it shows.

But all of that has been long established in this tough segment, and Borrego's trucky characteristics may limit its popularity. It's good, but it's not great. It's now up to buyers to determine if that's good enough.

2009 Kia Borrego

Type: SUV
Price: from $36,995
Engine: 3.8L V6
HP: 276
Torque: 267 lb/ft

Highlights

- Unique platform
- Roomy

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Toyota most trusted in study

Toyota has been voted Canada's most trusted brand in two categories — passenger car manufacturer and SUV manufacturer — in a national study commissioned by Reader's Digest. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nuvis: Urban utility redefined

Hyundai's Nuvis concept.

The world can now to peer into Hyundai's future with the introduction of the Nuvis concept at the recently concluded 2009 New York International Auto Show.

The Nuvis is the eleventh signature concept car to be designed at the company's California Design Center in Irvine, Calif.

In addition to showcasing the brand's cutting-edge capabilities, Nuvis also hints at a possible design direction for a future-generation crossover, blending attributes of a tall urban car and a premium utility vehicle.

Consistent with Hyundai's pledge to lead all brands in U.S. fuel economy by 2015, Nuvis is powered by Hyundai's Hybrid Blue Drive architecture, which uses breakthrough lithium polymer battery technology.

Hyundai's all-new, homegrown Hybrid Blue Drive architecture helps define the Nuvis concept. Hyundai's proprietary parallel hybrid drive system mates the already fuel-efficient 2.4-litre Theta II engine to a six-speed automatic transmission and a 30kW electric motor for maximum fuel economy.

"Consistent with Hyundai's pledge to lead all brands in U.S. fuel economy by 2015, Nuvis is powered by Hyundai's Hybrid Blue Drive architecture, which uses breakthrough lithium polymer battery technology."

Hybrid Blue Drive has an all-electric mode and a parallel drive mode, meaning that the wheels are turned by power coming directly from the gasoline engine, or the electric motor, or both together, as conditions demand.

This parallel hybrid drive architecture will serve as the foundation for future Hyundai hybrid drive vehicles, starting with the next-generation Sonata.

Perched on top of 22-inch wheels, Nuvis' proportions are tall, strong and protective. The two body-side lines set up a flowing water effect, giving the appearance of motion.

Large gull-wing doors, either opened or closed, create unique front, rear and profile views.

Blue ambient lighting cast across the body adds to the overall upscale feel of the vehicle.

FROM CARGUIDE

MINI tribute to Harrison
Mini has created a modern version of late Beatles guitarist George Harrison's vintage car to coincide with the brand's 50th birthday. The one-off model will be handed over to Harrison's widow, Olivia Harrison. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Audi pumps it up

PETER BLEAKNEY
for Metro Canada

In its bid to become the world's largest maker of premium automobiles, Audi recently showed off the latest arrow in its burgeoning quiver in the south of France.

Arriving in Canada in late summer, the four-seat 2010 Audi A5 and hotter S5 Cabriolet, both with quattro all-wheel-drive, will fill the void created by the departing previous generation A4 drop top. No Canadian pricing has been set, but rest assured, Audi wants to lure buyers away from the BMW 328i Cabriolet ($55,600) and the 335i Cabriolet ($65,600).

Audi is using a three-layer fabric top for this cabrio, giving the benefits of reduced complexity, weight and volume. Top up, it's a relief to see this car carries much of the A5 coupe's chiseled good looks.

With the roof tucked under the tonneau cover (15 seconds down, 17 seconds up, operates up to 50 km/h) it cuts quite a graceful profile. The brushed aluminum trim ringing the cabin is a lovely detail.

Carrying on Audi's tradition of class-leading interiors, the cabin is beautifully done, highlighted with wood inlays and/or brushed aluminum trim. You sit low in this cab, and the multi-adjustable driver's chair and manual tilt/telescope wheel make finding the optimal driving position a breeze. Back seat room is tolerable for adults as long as the front seats aren't pushed too far back.

The 2010 A5 Cabriolet carries a naturally aspirated 265 hp 3.2-litre FSI V6 mated to a 6-speed Tiptronic autobox. This proved a satisfying combination, delivering smooth performance that was well suited to the A5's mission as a comfy tourer.

Enthusiasts will opt for the S5 Cabriolet, which sports 18-inch wheel (up from 17) and a 333 hp supercharged TSFI 3.0-litre V6.

For much of this test route, which resembled the trajectory of a highly intoxicated sailor, horsepower was not a pressing issue. More pertinent was the ability of Audi's latest cabrio to provide good grip and balanced handling.

The quattro full-time all-wheel-drive with a default 60 per cent rear bias is a good start. Standard in the S5 Cabriolet is Audi drive select. A trio of buttons (comfort, auto and dynamic) call up pre-programmed groupings of throttle response, shift maps and servotronic steering assist.

The four-seat 2010 Audi A5 and the hotter S5 Cabriolet (pictured) are arriving in Canada late summer.

2010 A5/S5 Cabriolet

Type: Sports sedan
Price: Not Available
Engine: 3.2L FSI V6/ 3.0L TFSI Supercharged V6
HP: 265/333
Torque: 243 lb-ft/324.5 lb-ft

Highlights

- Chiseled good looks
- Most likely to be cheaper than similar BMW models, although no price has been announced so far

Everyone's a bad driver ... except you

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

"When my husband and I are in the car, I usually let him drive. Because when I drive, he has a tendency to bite the dashboard."
Comedian Rita Rudner

Have you noticed? Anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a moron."

George Carlin said that once, and I believe the observation has more than a grain of truth about it.

Our assessment on whether or not some other driver is screwing up seems based not so much on if they're contravening the law — those are obvious signs — but more so if they are deviating from our more idiosyncratic, personal codes of driving behaviour.

That person following you, maybe three feet closer than you're comfortable with? Well, he's a maniac.

That person backing up traffic while waiting to make a left, and not taking advantage of a dicey gap in on-coming traffic — a gap you would have surely grabbed? That person is a menace to society.

That driver who approached an intersection with far too much caution, causing you to lose your God-given right to run that yellow light? Well, that person is a selfish oaf. How do they live with themselves?

Tolerance of other people's driving is tested even more if that other person is your spouse or significant other.

Here's comedian Rita Rudner on the topic: "When my husband and I are in the car, I usually let him drive. Because when I drive, he has a tendency to bite the dashboard."

One strategy I'm trying, to stay cool behind the wheel, is imagining that whatever boneheaded move the other driver just did, was an aberration, a slip up they usually don't make.

But I'm not there yet. I generally assume they're hardened, amoral criminal types, and it's my duty to lay on as much horn as possible.

Another strategy I'm working on is shortening my list of driving pet peeves. Not there yet either.

The thing that has helped me the most, however, in the battle to stay calm, is anticipating debatable behaviour.

Advanced driving courses always instil the notion of self-defence. Quickly identify situations where an ill-advised move by the other driver will put you at risk, and assume the worst.

If they make the right move, that's fine.

But if they cross your line, or the one that police actually use, and you've reacted correctly and gracefully and with a world-weary smirk, well, that's even finer.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

It's bumpy in California
California's major urban roadways are the roughest in the U.S., according to a report released by Transportation California. The road conditions cost an average driver in the state at least $590 US a year in extra vehicle operating costs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

How cool is your car?

If your car A/C seems hesitant to blow cold, or if it isn't cooling the cabin as quickly as you remember, an inspection may be in order.

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

The hot weather is one of the most eagerly anticipated parts of the summer season if you're a human being. If you're a vehicle, the heat means additional strain on vital components during towing, hauling and long family trips.

Poorly maintained parts tend to show themselves when vehicles are pushed to extremes.

As such, a sweltering summer day is a fantastic time for overheating, driveline failure or engine damage, if your cooling system isn't performing properly. Any of the above will leave you stranded on the roadside with a car full of sweaty, irritated and cranky family members. Fortunately, readying your cooling system for warm-weather travelling is a relatively quick and painless endeavour.

In addition to keeping your engine running at its ideal operating temperature, your cooling system may play a part in keeping other components, like your transmission, from overheating as well. Your cooling system works by circulating coolant throughout the engine to absorb and remove the tremendous heat it generates while running.

Over time, the effectiveness of the coolant diminishes, and a coolant change is required. This occurs in varying intervals for different vehicles, or on an "as-needed" basis as advised by your mechanic. Forget when your coolant was changed last? It's probably overdue.

If your ride is dripping green fluid and you're planning a road trip anyways, you're asking for trouble. Overheating can quickly lead to engine failure and permanent, catastrophic damage. Cooling system repairs tend to be considerably more affordable than an engine replacement.

A periodic radiator flush is also advisable to remove harmful sludge from within the cooling system. Sludge may accumulate within the radiator and hoses over time, reducing effectiveness and component life.

Protecting your engine from the heat this summer is only half the battle — and you'll want to make sure you and your passengers benefit from a reliable and effective air conditioning system. If your A/C seems hesitant to blow cold, or if it isn't cooling the cabin as quickly as you remember, an inspection is in order. This can often reveal a small problem before it escalates into a much larger and pricier one.

For instance, a leaking A/C line or fitting may allow air, moisture or other contaminants into the system. This can cause a world of trouble and result in serious damage. Air and moisture mixing with refrigerant is bad news — so fixing a leak early on can save money, not to mention preventing potentially harmful chemicals from winding up in the atmosphere.

A simple mechanical or electrical failure could result in improper operation of the A/C system, too.

Metro Workology exclusive: Head to Toe
In the coming weeks Metro's Workology section will be setting its sights on the health industry and all jobs and careers therein. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work for the special Head to Toe series.

Workology

Screw You Recession

Sick of all this recession talk? Visit Virgin Mobile's recession busting website, screwyourecession.ca. The website offers advice and tips and tricks for combating the economic downturn, from cheap first dates to weirdest ways to make money during the recession to tips on building the perfect resumé to ways of enjoying arts and culture on the cheap.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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'A detective of human injury'

Physiotherapists can help injured people live better

Head to **Toe**

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

When injuries happen, physiotherapist Victor Vongphakdy goes on the case to figure out what went wrong and why.

The 27-year-old physiotherapist who serves clients at the Physiomed clinic in Brampton, Ont., finds the intellectual challenge of his job refreshing because it requires a strong understanding of not only how the body works but how exactly things can go wrong.

"I like to call myself a detective of human injury. I have to deduce from a wide spectrum of what clients may have and bring it down to an accurate diagnosis," Vongphakdy said.

Lower back and neck pain tend to be the most common injuries Vongphakdy sees, with a wide variety of sports injuries also topping the bill. Once he diagnoses the problem, Vongphakdy sets up a rehabilitation program and designs a training regimen aimed at strengthening the body in the right places to prevent a similar injury from happening in the future. He believes in educating clients about their bodies to help keep them out of the clinic by training their bodies to match their physical demands.

"The amount of stress that people demand from their bodies is often more than their inherent muscle strength can handle. Education is key to winning the battle," he said.

Vongphakdy holds a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology as well as a master's in physical therapy and says his background in science gave him a head start in his field.

"My background in kinesiology gave me a huge advantage because of my exposure to the sports field and knowledge of the basics of training and muscle fatigue," he said.

With plenty of face-to-face interaction with the clients he helps, Vongphakdy says it's easy to find satisfaction in his work.

"I love my job. When I come to work I'm interacting with people, I'm using my brain and I'm getting people better. It's completely satisfying," Vongphakdy said.

An avid sports lover himself, Vongphakdy finds the most satisfaction in helping active people reclaim the ability to do those things they loved doing before getting injured.

"Being able to bring people back to activities that they love that they couldn't do before coming in, that's what drives me. It makes want to get them there because I share that passion," he said.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Physiotherapist Victor Vongphakdy poses with a model of the human spine.

For more of the Head to Toe exclusive series check Workology frequently or stop by:
metronews.ca/work

WorkplaceLaw
Daniel Lublin

Daniel Lublin discusses common employment law misconceptions in his column. Visit metronews.ca/workplacelaw

Lung injury caused by stunts
Mariska Hargitay has revealed the partially collapsed lung she has experienced since January was caused by doing her own stunts on the set of Law and Order: SVU. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Gump dump

Tom Hanks has denied speculation he is set to reprise the role of Forrest Gump for a movie based on Winston Groom's follow-up novel Gump and Co.
FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Cut a rug, bust a gut

New comedy spoofs the dance movie genre

Tyler (Ross Thomas) prepares to dance with Nora (Christina Murphy) in the comedy spoof Dance Flick, opening this week.

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then those responsible for the genre of the dance movie should be gushing with pride.

After all, this weekend will see the theatrical release of Dance Flick, the latest in a cinematic tradition of recent comedy spoofs like the successful Scary Movie series, Superhero Movie and Date Movie. It seems in popular culture, you aren't a genre until you've been spoofed.

But while Dance Flick borrows its punchlines from such recent hits as Step Up, Save the Last Dance and High School Musical, the most successful dance films in Hollywood hit the screen decades earlier when John Travolta defined the genre by stretching himself into a pair of white polyester slacks for 1977's Saturday Night Fever.

Not only did that classic film receive its own spoof treatment (Airplane!) but it still reigns at the top of the dance genre having grossed over $94 million US since its release. Other hits like Flashdance, Footloose and Dirty Dancing successfully followed and now define many of the films we see today.

"Dancing movies are good because they have a formula," once stated Step Up star Channing Tatum. And he's correct. Unlike many musicals, dance films rely on choreography to progress the plot of a story.

Movie **feature**

While movies like Hairspray include both choreography and song, the dance genre defines conflict of character through the art; the protagonist must advance through dance.

But why are movie audiences so attracted to dance flicks in the first place? The answer may be more intuitive than you think. According to a recent article in Scientific American; our brains are stimulated by viewing coordinated movements.

In fact, biologically-speaking, dance films share a great deal in common with action movies like Fast & Furious and Star Trek. See, not unlike the rush we get from watching high-speed car chases or a bar brawl featuring James T. Kirk, anecdotal evidence shows that "if you're watching someone dance, your brain's movement areas activate" as if you were participating yourself.

Essentially, you get the euphoric sensation without the muscle-strain. So quite literally, we are living vicariously through dance movies. Now, doesn't that make you want to Step Up to the box office and buy a ticket?

Dance film rentals

- Step Up
- Dirty Dancing
- Save the Last Dance
- Strictly Ballroom
- Girl's Just Want to Have Fun
- Flashdance
- Stomp the Yard
- Footloose

Star align for CBS fall schedule

TV Alex O'Loughlin, is back on CBS with the new medical drama Three Rivers.

The network went mostly for star vehicles in its first new series picks for next season with Rivers; the NCIS spin-off, toplined by LL Cool J and Chris O'Donnell; legal drama The Good Wife, starring Julianna Margulies; and the Jenna Elfman-starring comedy Accidentally on Purpose.

Law & order back for 20th season

TV Law & Order will match Gunsmoke's record 20-year run.

NBC has renewed Dick Wolf's crime drama for a 20th season, sources said. The order is believed to be for 16 episodes.

Wolf had been open about his desire to tie Gunsmoke for the longest-running drama on TV. **REUTERS**

GlobalStyle
Kenya Hunt
metronews.ca/globalstyle
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primetime	267	351 -	ACCESS	Alberta Primetime (Live)		Law & Order "Exchange"		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order: SVU		Primetime
	243	317 3	CFCN	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: NY "Pay Up" (N)		American Idol The winner is revealed.				News (N)
	-	- 4	OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News		News		The Simpsons	King	Metropia
	-	371 5	KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	*Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* ★★ (2006, Adventure)				
	245	306 6	CBRT	NHL Hockey: Playoffs		CBC News	To Be Announced			CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338 7	CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	*Casino Royale* ★★★ (2006, Action) Daniel Craig, Eva Green, Mads Mikkelsen. Premiere.						News Hour
	246	- 8	CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		Murdoch Mysteries		Rita Rocks	Friends	Friends	Less-Kind	Your City
	119	705 9	CBXFT	Des squelettes	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)		Bons baisers de France (SC)		Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		TJ Alberta
	-	- 10	SHAW	(6) Local Programming						Local Programming		
	-	372 12	KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (N)		Criminal Minds
	-	374 14	KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Blueprint America: Road		World War II: Behind Closed Doors: Stalin, the Nazis				War of World
	502	390 15	CBC	CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		I, Psychopath
	-	370 16	KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order
	-	373 22	KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The winner is revealed.				News (N)
	297	652 37	WPIX	(6) *Take the Lead* (2006)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men	Friends	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Frasier
news	500	500 29	CNN	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	508	502 31	CNN2	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace		Showbiz Tonight		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace
sports	400	400 21	TSN	NBA Basketball: Eastern Conf. Final Game 1 -- Teams TBA				SportsCentre		PartyPoker.net Women's World Open		
	408	418 27	net	CHL Hockey: Memorial Cup		Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central	MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected (HDTV)		Ult. Fighter
	410	403 30	SCORE	(5) RaceNight		Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
	411	457 44	OLN	Mantracker	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures		Mantracker	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter
	417	406 48	SPEED	Pinks	Pass Time	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks
family	552	543 20	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	In Real Life (N)		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Survive This	Adrenaline Proj	Falcon Beach
	557	541 39	FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School
	555	545 67	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken
	575	583 11	CMT	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Totally "Garth Brooks"		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
	553	546 17	TREE	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Comfy Couch	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Babar	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Go, Diego, Go!
	-	- 18	CHTV	The Insider (N)	E! News	Kardashians	Candy Girls (N)	News Special	Behind-Scenes	Janice Dickinson Modeling		News (N)
cable variety	505	398 19	TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	602	568 23	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	Bag	Supersize vs. Superskinny		Stuck
	521	560 24	TLC	Mystery Diagnosis		My First Home	My First Home	I Shouldn't Be Alive		Mystery Diagnosis		My First Home
	603	561 25	FOOD	Iron Chef America		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Opening Soon	Opening Soon	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Diner, Drive-In
	615	520 26	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	617	522 32	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Cashing In	About a Girl	G-Spot	Cock'd Gunns	Starter Wife
	601	562 33	SLICE	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives OC		Trading Sp
	-	633 34	ENC2	*The Car* (1977)	*Death Weekend* ★ (1977, Suspense)			*Poltergeist* ★★★ (1982, Horror) Craig T. Nelson.				*Thirteen Ghosts*
	520	505 35	DISC	Deadliest Catch		Mayday "Ripped Apart"		Daily Planet		Mayday "Ripped Apart"		Deadliest
	620	523 36	BRAVO	Wingfield	Wingfield	Southland "Westside"		Law & Order "Fluency"		Without a Trace		Southland
	294	650 40	WPCH	(6) *Cinderella Man* ★★★ (2005, Biography)				Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	*Cinderella Man* (2005)	
	626	547 41	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore Show
	-	539 42	TCM	(6) *For Pete's Sake*		*Harry in Your Pocket* ★★ (1973, Drama) James Coburn.				*Believe in Me* ★ (1971, Drama), Jon Cypher		
	628	584 43	SPIKE	Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		4th and Long (HDTV)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Video Justice
	522	516 45	HIST	Outlaw Bikers		NCIS		Outlaw Bikers		Ice Road Truckers		NCIS
	627	528 46	SPACE	Primeval (N)		Stormworld (N)	Grand Star	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Trek: Voyager
	-	- 47	AMC	(6) *Poltergeist* ★★★ (1982, Horror)			*Star Trek: Nemesis* ★★ (2002, Science Fiction) Patrick Stewart.					Breaking Bad
	619	525 49	TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	Vanity Insanity	Ad Persuasion	Ad Persuasion	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy
	600	564 50	HGTV	Unsellable	Hid Potential	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes	Holmes-Homes	Hid Potential	Unsellable	Big City Broker
	501	391 52	CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	504	508 70	BNN	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
	526	507 92	VIVA	Medium		Mediums	Psychic Detect	Mediums	Encounters	Judging Amy		Medium
	269	350 93	APTN	APTN National News: Contact		The Journey Monica Pinette.		500 Nations (Part 8 of 8)		Miywayawin	Find. Our Talk	Wings-Canada
	-	- 94	MCP	(6:30) News	News	Eight Heroes	Mom's-Upset	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical
	571	581 100	MMM	Gimme Sugar	Gimme Sugar	Entourage	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix		Gimme Sugar	Gimme Sugar	Entourage
	570	580 101	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Instant Star	Instant Star	One Tree Hill		Video on Trial	Video on Trial	disBand
	581	566 102	MTV	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live	After	College Life	Beatdown	Real World-Rd

critics' corner

The Achievers
She had 11 Oscar nominations, two wins and a pair of eyes immortalized in song. "Bette Davis" remembers one of Hollywood's great actresses, a true Hollywood icon whose career spanned more than 50 years and included such diverse roles as the unlikable Mildred Rogers, the tragic Judith Traherne and the frightening, delusional Jane Hudson. Fasten your seat belts! 5 PM on BRAVO

The New Adventures of Old Christine
Weddings always seem to bring out the unexpected in Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), and the nuptials of her ex, Richard (Clark Gregg), are no exception, as she rekindles her romance with New Christine's (Emily Rutherfurd) father (guest star Scott Bakula). Afterward, though, she learns some shocking news about "Papa Jeff." Constance Zimmer and James Lesure also guest star in the season finale, "Love: A Cautionary Tale." 9 PM on KREM

Brooke bares her cougar side

Brooke Shields strips to down to lingerie and latex thigh-highs in a new, cougar-tastic photo spread for Australia's Kurv magazine that features her up close with a younger man, tvguide.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

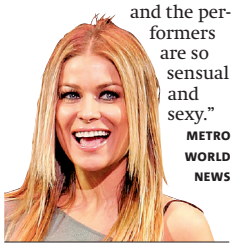
Carmen joins burlesque show

CAREER MOVE? Carmen Electra is getting ready to strip down — but not completely — in a new Las Vegas show. She's set to start in July in the topless cabaret Crazy Horse at the MGM Grand.

"She's not going topless, but she will be wearing very little. She's going to wear whatever she is comfortable with," a rep for the show said, according to media reports.

Electra added: "It is such an iconic show and I was in awe after seeing it for the first time. The dancers and the performers are so sensual and sexy."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Eminem smooths over Mimi beef

BACKPEDAL? Eminem has apparently smoothed over the feud he started with Nick Cannon and Mariah Carey over lyrics in one of his new songs that caused Cannon to retaliate.

"I heard about some of the things he was saying," Eminem said in an interview with BBC Radio. "I didn't read his blog or anything. But it is what it is. He's supposed to defend his wife, and I expected him to do that. But at the end of the day, it's a line I said. It's a song. What I actually meant to say is, I wish them the best. That's the whole message of the record."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Mel's girlfriend pregnant?

BABY MAMA DRAMA Mel Gibson's new girlfriend is reportedly pregnant, according to femalefirst.co.uk.

The Lethal Weapon star — who already has seven children with estranged wife Robyn — and Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva are said to be expecting their first child together in the autumn.

It has been claimed Gibson, 53, has already told Robyn and their children the news, although it wasn't well-received.

A source told the National Enquirer magazine: "In late April, Mel gathered his children at the family home in Malibu and broke the news that Oksana is pregnant, and he expects them to accept the baby as a new sibling.

"They are quite upset. Even though Mel assured them the pregnancy was unplanned, they're furious with him, and say they're going to take steps to protect their inheritance, which they feel is in jeopardy."

Robyn filed for divorce in April, citing "irreconcilable differences," and she is expected to get half Gibson's fortune.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Marital woes sparks house sale?

PEOPLE LeAnn Rimes and her songwriter husband Dean Sheremet are saying goodbye to their home just outside Nashville, people.com reports.

"LeAnn and Dean's home is on the market," the singer's rep confirms of the $7.45-million US property, which was completed in 2008 and features six bedrooms, 7-½ bathrooms, plus exercise and media rooms.

The decision to sell is not related to reports that Rimes, 26, allegedly had an affair with her Lifetime TV-movie co-star Eddie Cibrian, 35, a friend of the country singer tells People.

Rimes and Sheremet, 28, are committed to their relationship, which has its ups and downs, says Rimes' friend. "(LeAnn and Dean) are still having challenges and trying to work through them. They're working on their marriage."

On Sunday, Rimes was spotted chatting with Cibrian, 35, who's married to model Brandi Glanville, 36, at a Los Angeles Lakers basketball game. Her pal says it was not a planned meeting.

"That was totally random," says the friend. "They both just happened to be at the game."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hilary reimagines Bonnie

REINTERPRETATION Hilary Duff thinks her upcoming film The Story of Bonnie and Clyde will be "beautiful," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 21-year-old singer and actress will play teenage outlaw Bonnie Parker in the new movie and says she can't wait to get started.

She said: "I'm really excited. I think it's going to be really beautiful. We're shooting in the South, and we want to really show how hot and dry it is ... and the clothes! It's a tragic love story, and that's what we want to get across.

"People don't realize that they were, like 18 years old doing this. In the version in '67, with Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, they were already adults, but Bonnie and Clyde were actually teenagers. So they were very ahead of their time. They were rebels, you know?"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Swayze's death report false

STILL GOING Patrick Swayze, whose battle with pancreatic cancer was first announced last year, has not died, contrary to a false rumour that was widely circulated yesterday morning, the actor's rep tells People exclusively.

"This is to confirm that Patrick Swayze did not pass away this morning contrary to severely reckless reports stemming from a radio station in Jacksonville, Fla.," says Annett Wolf.

"Patrick Swayze is alive, well and is enjoying his life and he continues to respond to treatment."

Since news of his disease was made public, Swayze, 56, has been the subject of speculation about his health.

In March, he told People: "I hope in the future, the press will think twice about printing inaccuracies and painting an unpleasant picture when I have so much to be thankful for at this time."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Starlet showdown on set?

FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT! Gwyneth Paltrow is reportedly jealous of the attention Scarlett Johansson is receiving on the set of Iron Man 2, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

A source said: "Gwyneth has become very frustrated with Scarlett. They come from different worlds and have completely different styles. "Gwyneth has found Scarlett very demanding for the attention of the crew. It's not a happy set."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kanye pleads not guilty

CELEBRITY JUSTICE Kanye West pleaded not guilty Friday in a Los Angeles court to misdemeanour vandalism, battery and grand theft stemming from a scuffle with paparazzi at Los Angeles International Airport on Sept. 11, people.com reports.

West, 31, was not present in court, but his lawyer, Blair Berk, appeared on his behalf.

West's road manager, Don Crawley, 33, who was charged with two counts of each of the above crimes, also pleaded not guilty through his attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley.

Eight months ago, the two were arrested for the altercation while attempting to catch a flight to Honolulu. Video of the incident showed both men wrestling a camera away from a photographer, with each smashing parts of it into the ground.

Crawley also allegedly smashed a second photographer's camera.

West and Crawley's next hearing is scheduled for July 15.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Long distance a relationship killer for Leona

TOO BAD The long-distance relationship routine doesn't seem to be working out for Leona Lewis. The singer and her longtime boyfriend Al-Chamma — who've been together since they were 10 — have reportedly decided to go their separate ways while she's in L.A. and he's in London.

"They are still in love, but Leona's lifestyle is making things really hard," a source tells Britain's Star. "Her career is doing so well ... Unfortunately, this leaves her very little time to work on her relationship."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Tempers run high in Jack's band

INTERNAL STRIFE Jack White punched one of his female bandmates during an alcohol-fuelled night out, femalefirst.co.uk alleges.

The rocker reportedly hit Dead Weather partner Alison Mosshart after getting into an argument with her in a New York bar.

The pair are both said to be "ashamed" about the altercation and have now resolved their differences.

A source told Britain's The Sun: "Jack and Alison went on a mammoth all-day session when they met up in New York. They sunk a lot of alcohol and ended up at each others' throats. It was a one-off scrap and they both feel really ashamed.

"But they are over it now and have promised each other they won't get into that state again."

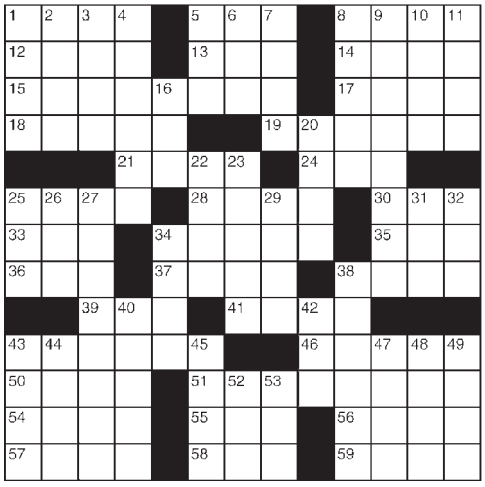
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Today Light rain 8°C / 1°C
Thursday Partly cloudy 14°C / 0°C
Friday Partly cloudy 14°C / 2°C

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.

Take Five



Crossword across

1 Bottlenose kin
5 Winter ailment
8 Reed instrument
12 Lummox
13 — -relief
14 Industrial region of Germany
15 Household arachnid
17 Actress Argento
18 Old photo shade
19 Copies
21 Skin abnormality
24 Vast expanse
25 North American peninsula, for short
28 Persia, now
30 Prized possession
33 Ostrich's cousin
34 Pizza dough
35 Ms. Thurman
36 USO audience
37 For fear that
38 Call a halt to
39 Skater Babilonia
41 Racetrack
"helper"
43 Not digital, as a watch
46 Expire, as a subscription
50 Mongolian desert
51 U.S. area where industry once thrived
54 Tel —
55 Cleo's slayer
56 Slender
57 Assess
58 Chesapeake, e.g.
59 Exile isle

Crossword down

1 Automaker Ransom Eli —
2 Libertine
3 Point
4 Theseus' land
5 Grp. that caught Dillinger
6 Long. crosser
7 Secondhand
8 Speechify
9 Work really hard (for)
10 Columbus is there
11 History chapters
16 Has permission
20 "Money — everything"
22 Paddock papa
23 Have faith in
25 Plead
26 Parisian pal
27 Very slightly
29 Regarding
31 Comic Philips
32 Chart
34 Advertising award
38 Not wobbly
40 Breathing
42 Last (Abbr.)
43 Culture medium
44 PBS science show
45 Snatch
47 Rind
48 Thick chunk
49 Sicilian spouter
52 — Today
53 Agent

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	7			3				9
		3	4		7			2
			2	9	1			
	3					8		
5	1						4	7
		4					3	
			7	2	9			
7			1		6	2		
2				4			8	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

L	I	E	S		G	E	M	
A	N	T	I		L	E	I	
S	N	A	P	P	E	R	S	
			H	I	E		D	R
S	H	O	O	T		B	E	A
T	O	R	N		F	L	A	P
E	E	C		O	R	A	L	S
W	R	A	P	P	E	R	S	
		L	A	N	E		P	A
T	A	M	A	L	E		P	E
I	C	O	N		T	R	A	P
E	R	S	E		I	O	N	
R	E	S	T		C	B	S	

F	A	C	E					
S	N	O	W					
H	E	R	E					
R	A	W	E	R				
P	E	R	S					
V	I	E						
M	E	S	A					
P	A	N	E	L				
P	E	G						
T	R	A	P	P	E	R	S	
I	L	I	E					
E	L	B	E					

2	4	6	3	5	8	1	7	9
1	5	8	2	7	9	4	3	6
9	7	3	1	4	6	2	8	5
3	8	4	5	2	1	9	6	7
7	1	2	9	6	3	5	4	8
5	6	9	4	8	7	3	1	2
8	9	1	7	3	2	6	5	4
6	2	5	8	1	4	7	9	3
4	3	7	6	9	5	8	2	1

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Grandma Margaret's Barley Soup

INGREDIENTS:
3 1/2 cups (875 ml) low-sodium vegetable or beef broth
12 oz (375 g) fresh green or wax beans, trimmed and cut into bite-size pieces
1 large potato, peeled and cubed
1 large yellow onion, chopped
2 large carrots, sliced
3 bay leaves
1/4 tsp (1 ml) each salt and black pepper
2 cups (500 ml) bite-size pieces cooked beef, pork or tofu
1 can (14 oz/398 ml) low-sodium tomatoes, undrained and cut up
1/2 cup (125 ml) quick-cooking barley
1 tsp (5 ml) dried rosemary leaves

METHOD:
1. In large pot, combine broth, green beans, potato, onion, carrots, bay leaves, salt and pepper. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, until vegetables are almost tender, 20 minutes.
2. Stir in beef, tomatoes, barley and rosemary. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, until barley is tender, 15 minutes. Discard bay leaves.

SERVES 6

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Don't be too serious about life — have some fun. As the Sun moves into the most outgoing area of your chart today, you will easily make friends.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
The sun leaves your birth sign today but that does not mean your luck is about to turn. There will be plenty of good things over the next few days.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
The sun is beginning its journey through your birth sign but you must be patient. Hold off on your plans until the moon is new at the weekend.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Cancerians are sensitive and cosmic activity around the most introverted area of your chart means it's possible you will withdraw into yourself.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Friendships are of the utmost importance now and it is likely that you will meet someone who becomes your bosom buddy over the next few weeks.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The sun's transit of the midheaven angle of your chart will bring new opportunities and make you aware of how much more is possible in your work.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A plan you have been working on in secret is now ready to be revealed. But if you leave it a few days, say until the 24th, the impact will be even greater.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You need to start looking ahead and making plans for the proverbial "rainy day." A bit of forward thinking will do wonders for your peace of mind.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
The sun's transit of the partnership area of your chart over the next four weeks or so will require you to be cooperative rather than combative.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
This is the ideal time to look more closely at your everyday routines and habits and think of ways you can improve and update them.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The sun's entry into the most dynamic area of your chart today will give you a kick-start to get your big idea off the drawing board and on to the streets.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You need to get close to someone you have drifted away from emotionally since the start of the year. Make an effort to see their point of view.

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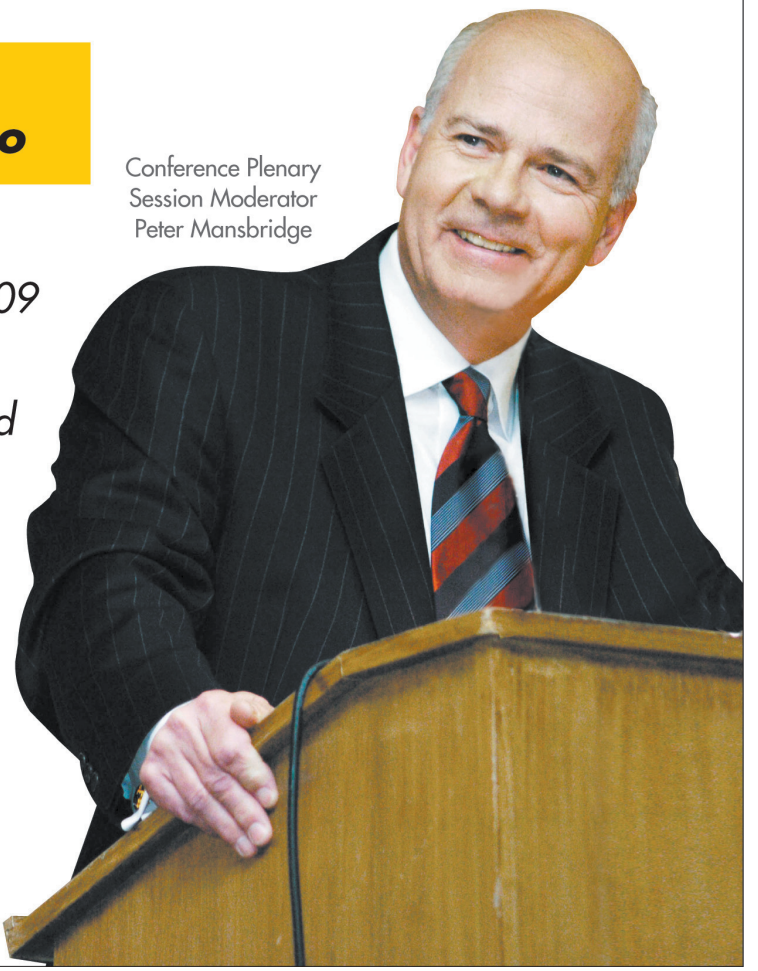

Conference Plenary Session Moderator Peter Mansbridge

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